



VE3FW—LARC call sign
honours the memory of the
Founding President
P.J. "Pat" O'Shea

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

December 2005



Seasons Greetings

Annual Dinner and meeting will be held at the Slovak Legion
Sun Room on February 11, 2006 starting at 1800 hours.

TICKETS FOR DINNER ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX

Fort Michelizzi VE3MCZ

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

John Sacek VA3JMS

Leo Wehrstedt VE3ATC

Symposium at 18:00 hrs and Dinner at 18:30 hours

Tickets are \$25.00 per person. A cash bar is available.

Wishing all fellow Amateurs

a

very Merry Christmas

And a

Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

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- Next Meeting
Thursday
December 8, 2005 at
the McIntyre Building,
Confederation College
Room 191
at 7:30 pm
- Annual LARC dinner
meeting will be held
Saturday, Feb 11, 2006
at the Slovak
- Amateur Radio Classes
begin Jan 19, 2006 at
Confederation College
contact:
Bill, VE3XT at 344-1848

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	Mount Baldy	147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR	St. Joseph's	146.820 (-600) 442.075 (+5 MHz)
VE3BGA	Hillcrest H.S.	145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz) 442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP	Upsala	145.470 (-600)



John VA3JMS

The Prez Sez.....

Since our last meeting it looks like winter has arrived, and is here to stay, and that can only mean one thing, more on that at our next meeting.

The February dinner tickets are now available from selected members at a cost of \$25.00, and will again be held at the Slovak Hall. Bob (VE3RVA) has been busy securing a display spot at Intercity mall to show case our club, the services we provide to the community, and how to get involved. Bob will also be doing his TV spot to promote the club as well look for that to air on Jan 11th.

Ham classes are scheduled to start on Jan 19th, hopefully we will have enough students to participate. The executive will be selecting 2 new senate members at the next exec meeting out of a number of worthy nominees.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the community events this year and to those who organized all of us, we couldn't have done it without you. The next event is the Sibley Ski Tour to happen around the 1st week in March.

Our focus for the upcoming year will be to continue to promote our club to help increase our membership through more public awareness, I would like to do some presentations to the various community groups to accomplish this and hope I can attract a few members to help out as well.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you, and your families a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

73's

John – VA3JMS



Joe VE3TBX

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report

Opening Balance - November 2, 2005	\$3,094.96
Income	
Memberships	\$290.00
50/50 Draw	\$7.50
Bank Interest	\$0.02
Trailer portion of Insurance	\$125.00
Total Income	\$422.52
Expenses	
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$44.02
Bank Service Fee	\$1.00
Total Expenses	\$45.02
Closing Balance - December 1, 2005	\$3,472.46

Joe -VE3TBX
Treasurer



LARC November 10, 2005 MINUTES

Bill, VE3XT



Bill VE3XT

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by **John, VA3JMS**

The minutes of the past meeting will be modified to correct Bob's call to **VE3BHN**. A motion was put forward by **Bob, VE3RVA** and seconded by **Randy, VE3OJ** that the modified minutes be accepted. The motion passed.

The treasurer's report was moved to be accepted by **Joe, VE3TBX** and seconded by **Randy, VE3OJ**, this motion was also carried.

There was no correspondence this month.

Committee Reports:

Equipment: No Report

RAC: No Report

ARES: God, Allah, Visa and the weather permitting the new antenna will be installed at the new hospital in the next 2 weeks.

A mock disaster was held in the city and the LARC was not included, we will present our case as a valuable communications resource to the powers that be.

The recent hurricanes in the southern states showed the value of Amateur Radio communications.

Public Service:

We will again provide communications for the Rotary Club Christmas Parade and a special thanks to **Fort, VE3MCZ** for supplying the candy to **Clarence VE3WCW** to distribute during the parade.

Can Warn: No Report

Command Trailer:

The trailer has been moved to its new location at the old Confederation College hangar.

Old Business: A letter from the CNIB asking for a donation was brought up again and a motion by **Dave, VE3AVS** seconded by **Bob, VE3RVA** authorizing a \$100 donation was passed.

The annual dinner meeting will be held at the Slovak Legion in February at a cost of \$25 per person.

The proposed budget is still under scrutiny and will be presented later.

The LARC Ham Radio classes will start on Jan 19 with **Bill, VE3XT** teaching.

There is a possibility of a RF Expo and swap fest being held that evening as well.

New Business:

The LARC is looking for new members and a couple of ideas were presented by **Bill, VE3XT**.

Kudos were given to **Leo, VE3ATC** for the excellent HI-Q

A new host for the LARC web site is being investigated

A motion by **Dave, VE3AVS** and seconded by **Leo, VE3ATC** to give a special THANKS to **Ed, VE3SNW** for teaching the classes for many years. Thanks Ed. This was carried unanimously.

50/50 Draw: Was won by **Marion, VE3MJN** who went immediately to Boston Pizza and bought Mike a pizza.....

The motion close the meeting was moved by **Mike, VE3ZG** (who wanted to go to Boston Pizza and get his free pizza) and seconded by **Andy, VE3INI**

LARC at 2005 Christmas Parade

Thunder Bay's November 19, 2005 Christmas Parade was well represented by LARC members **Clarence VE3WCW** and **Fred VE3FAL** who braved the slushy, but mild day to pass out treats to the lines of big and small kids along the parade route.

Great job fellows!

Thanks for representing our club during this big annual event!



Clarence, VE3WCW on his mobile unit



Handout treats for the parade donated by :
Fort VE3MCZ and
Clarence VE3WCW

Fred VE3FAL on foot.

Fred, I hope you had a much needed hot foot soak when you got home after the long walk in the never ending cold slush along the parade route!



Photos on this page by Leo, VE3ATC

LARC at 2005 Christmas Parade

- Mike VE3ZG



Mike VE3ZG

Thunder Bay received between 5 and 10 cms. of snow just in time for the 15th Annual Santa Claus parade, this year, for the first time, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Thunder Bay. As in the past, Amateur volunteers were at the Community Auditorium recording the order the floats and other participants would proceed in the parade, and passing the information to the Amateur volunteers working with the commentators, working with Shaw Cable, who were taping the parade as it passed the reviewing stand.

Unfortunately, no pictures of **Norman VE3XRC** and **Linda VE3XLB**, who were at the commentators stand keeping the announcers fed with the appropriate sheets as the floats went by.

Photos by Marion VE3MJN

The Auditorium working crew:
Mike VE3ZG, Warren Paulson VE3FYN from Atikokan; **John VA3JMS; Bob VE3RVA**, and **Marion VE3MJN**.



Operating from a warm and toasty convenience.

(continued on next page)

LARC at 2005 Christmas Parade

- Mike VE3ZG

Christmas Parade—Mike VE3ZG (continued)

Here are some additional shots of the floats as they were forming up



Entries lined up awaiting the go signal.



The Rotary Club float.

Thanks to **Marion VE3MJN** for the great photos!.



1905-11-25 First U.S. advertisement for a radio receiver

In 1905, the first U.S. advertisement for a radio receiver appeared in this day's issue of the Scientific American. The one-inch advertisement <http://earlyradiohistory.us/1905teli.htm> was for the Telimco, which offered for \$8.50 a "Complete Outfit comprising 1-inch Spark Coil, Strap Key, Sender, Sensitive Relay, Coherer, with Automatic Decoherer and Sounder, 4 ex. Strong Dry Cells, all necessary wiring, including send and catch wires, with full instructions and diagrams." This indicates a system suitable for sending dots and dashes, not full audio. The advertisement also said, "Guaranteed to work up to one mile. Send for Illust. pamphlet." It was offered by Hugo Gernsback of The Electro Importing Company. The product name was an acronym of the name of the company name.

Ref: <http://www.todayinsci.com/> select date from Month and Day column at left, scroll down to Events.

Thanks to **Jim, VE3UA**

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2005 — 2006 Membership List

sorted by callsign

KBOBDN	Johnson, Rick	VE3AXL	Moorey, Phil	VE3MCZ	Michelizzi, Fort
KCOTUF	Powell, Dick	VE3AY	Haskin, Bill	VE3MJN	Nawrocki, Marion
VA3AAH	Schiffer, Charlene	VE3BCD	Bridgett, Laurie	VE3MPT	Migueis, Manuel
VA3BEL	Bel, Victor	VE3BHN	Gillespie, Robert	VE3MXJ	Harris, Brad
VA3BJJ	Janik, William	VE3CAP	Wright, Don	VE3NHX	Scalese, Lindo
VA3BRN	Burney, Gerald	VE3CLV	Vaillant, Cody	VE3PD	Doherty, Pat
VA3CLF	Pratt, Cliff	VE3EDX	Skillen, Mike	VE3RVA	Hansen, Robert
VA3JMS	Sacek, John	VE3EFZ	Rusnak, Kenneth	VE3SNW	Baumann, Ed
VA3LU	Stewardson, Terry	VE3EWH	Holseth, Ted	VE3TBX	Coghlan, Joe
VA3MVR	Vaillant, Mark	VE3FAL	Lesnick, Fred	VE3TLL	Rahmer, Teresa
VA3NST	Wallace, Denise	VE3FLB	Van Wyck, Robert	VE3WCW	Contin, Clarence
VA3OJ	Gottfred, Randy	VE3GTX	Watson, John	VE3WF	Hastie, John
VA3PP	Pugh, Patricia	VE3HZW	Wolowich, Mike	VE3XLB	Bell, Linda
VA3RCR	Erickson, Fred	VE3ICY	Wallace, Glen	VE3XRC	Bell, Norman
VA3ROM	Mazur, Robert	VE3IGP	Zaporzan, Ted	VE3XT	Unger, Bill
VA3WRL	Letang, Wayne	VE3INI	Malcolm, Andy	VE3ZG	Nawrocki, Mike
VA3XRM	McLeod, Roderick	VE3JCC	Chadwick, Chris	Not yet a member? A convenient application form is attached!	
VE3AJ	Klemacki, Joan	VE3JQ	Fiske, Keith		
VE3ATC	Wehrstedt, Leo	VE3KRH	Robb, Steve		
VE3AVS	Kimpton, David	VE3MAJ	Barker, Robert		

While browsing through some of the 2005 Christmas catalogues this year, I came across this interesting item for sale. Until now, I kinda thought the day of the nixie tube was long gone. Someone obviously found a way to clear out their collection and make a few bucks while doing so! That's in US dollars, to boot!

THE AUTHENTIC NIXIE TUBE CLOCK.

The same technology developed in 1952 for use in submarines, early mainframe computers, and the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, the now-extremely-rare Nixie tube has been resurrected for use in this handmade clock that shows the date and time. The warm glow created by the tubes was eventually supplanted in the 1970s by today's LCD screens, but the tubes remain prized by collectors and historians. When filled with neon and other gasses, then charged with an electric current, the Nixie (adapted from "Numerical Indicator Experimental") displays digits using a thin metal mesh and ten electrodes. The six tubes are attached to a stainless steel base and can be displayed in either 12 or 24-hour mode. Battery back-up included. 3" H x 8 1/2" L x 3" D. (2 lbs.)

BU-72505 \$349.95





Katrina Ham Radio Recognition

For those that receive or buy PC Magazine, John Dvorak's Inside Track column (page 93 - Nov 8 issue) offers an interesting perspective on ham radio versus one of today's mainstream technologies (Wireless internet access) during Katrina aftermath.

I was genuinely (and pleasantly) surprised to see this in a non ham radio magazine.

Actually - just found it on-line.

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1759,1867997,00.asp>

73, Peter VA3YOW

Thanks to **Randy VA3OJ**

Ham radio operators to the rescue after Katrina

Often unsung, amateur radio operators regularly assist in emergency situations. Hurricane Katrina was no exception. For the past week, operators of amateur, or ham, radio have been instrumental in helping residents in the hardest hit areas, including saving stranded flood victims in Louisiana and Mississippi.

When disaster strikes, ham networks spring into action. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service.

Full article at <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/9228945/>

Thanks to **Bob VE3RVA**

I have sent Industry Canada the information they require to update the list of amateurs holding a basic licence received after 1 April 2002 that qualify for HF privileges. Anyone who got over 80% on an exam after 1 April 2002 will see a plus sign after the word basic on the callsign listings at <http://www.rac.ca/callbook/>

If anyone has any questions regarding their exam mark, they can email me at ve3snw@shaw.ca

Thanks, **ED VE3SNW**



Whoooo is it?

Thanks to
Dave VE3AVS

Space station astronaut takes call from Alberta students

Fri, 02 Dec 2005 [CBC News](#)

Children at an elementary school near Calgary had a chance to chat with an astronaut on the International Space Station on Friday.

The Amateur Radio on International Space Station lets selected students pose questions to astronauts living on the station.

"I hope that they walk away with excitement and have a chance to live that dream and know that one day that might be them up there, too," said Brian Jackson, a Grade 5 teacher at Ralph McCall School in Airdrie, Alta.

The students had less than 12 minutes for their conversation.

"How hard is it to change your clothes in space?" asked six-year-old Kayla Lawrence.

"Kayla, its very easy to change your clothes in space," answered Bill McArthur, the American commander of the Expedition 12 mission. "We can put our pants on both legs at the same time."

It took nearly two years from the time the school applied until the conversation took place. The students researched their questions and made space-themed art to decorate the walls of the school's gym.

"It would be really cool to see the planets and everything," said Brooklyn Enes. McArthur and his Russian crewmate, Valery Tokarev, have been on the station since early October.

Members of a local amateur radio club used their equipment for the link-up.

"Even with technology, we know it can fail," said Ken Oelke, an amateur radio operator. "We were fairly nervous, but when we heard that astronaut coming back, we knew we had it made."



Editors QSK...

ON THE WEB

**Audio tapes from
9/11**

emergency units

[http://www.ny1.com/ny1/
content/index.jsp?
stid=6&aid=52732](http://www.ny1.com/ny1/content/index.jsp?stid=6&aid=52732)

**How do Battery Testers on
Battery Packages Work?**

[http://
home.howstuffworks.com/
question423.htm](http://home.howstuffworks.com/question423.htm)

-thanks to John, VE3EMI

"2005 has come and gone", in about the same time as it takes to say that, it seems!

Which reminds me, now is a good time to warm up that HF rig and keep it in the ready to help with the long cold nights! Not so much to warm up the shack, but to keep an ear out, when the band opens, and try to work all those elusive countries that I have mostly given up on! My last batch of QSL cards has already arrived, and if I want more, I guess its time to put in some effort!

My preferred mode is CW which also helps to keep my fingers warm!

Speaking of CW, I have been heating up the air (5 watts?) on QRP with **Phil, VE3AXL** on 15 meters (21.045) CW. The QSO's take place around 8 pm whenever we are both available, sometimes nightly and sometimes once or twice a week, for fun. Anyone interested in trying a hand with their CW is more than welcome to break in QRP or Not! This band is pretty much dead for DX right now, but excellent

for QRP with the low noise present. We will have to change frequencies when the band opens, of course.

Also, I have been working with **Jim, VE3UA** compiling records on LARC, including historic HI-Q's and any available documents using a web based database to catalogue what is available. We will ultimately post these records on LARCLUB.NET.

More on that later, but in the meantime, do not throw out any past LARC correspondence, documents, or anything that can be part of our historic past! Email me if you have anything to contribute. Our club history is at stake!

Thanks to all the contributors for this months Hi-Q! Your newsletter is only as good as we all make it!

That's it for now.

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a very Happy New Year!

...-...
73, Leo VE3ATC
email: ve3atc@spruce.ca

Ps. Not a writer and have a story or pictures? Contact me and I will help get it out!



See You There!

Next regular meeting

Thursday

December 8, 2005

McIntyre Building, Confederation College

Room 191

7:30 pm



CONFUCIUS SAY.....

Confucius say...

**"The wise speak when they have something to say,
the fools speak when they have to say something."**

Confucius Say...

"Part-time bandleaders should be called 'semi-conductors'."

Confucius Say...

"It is impossible to sling mud with clean hands."

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

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LARC Website
<http://www.larclub.net>

Hi-Q Editor and Publisher
E-mail: ve3atc@spruce.ca
Leo VE3ATC 939-1020

Hi-Q is published monthly on the Sunday preceding the monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Your submissions are welcome at any time. Submit early to ensure publication in next issue! Send to editor at ve3atc@spruce.ca



LARC is a member of [RAC](#)

LARC PUBLIC SERVICES

ARES

District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

RAC

[Radio Amateurs of Canada](#)

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske
Pat Doherty
Dave Kimpton
Laurie Bridgett

VE3JQ
VE3PD
VE3AVS
VE3BCD

LARC EXECUTIVE 2005—2006

President

John Sacek VA3JMS 767-3631

Vice-President

Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924

Secretary

Terry Stewardson VA3LU 577-9439

Treasurer

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566

Directors

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

Manuel MIGUELS VE3MPT 475-5686

Fort Michelizzi VE3MCZ 475-0971

Mark Vaillant VA3MVR

Past President

Bill Unger VE3XT 344-1848

About LARC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June at 7:30 PM local time at the McIntyre Building, Confederation College Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC to help you with your Amateur Radio License

contact any of the Executive members above for more information



2005/2006 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC
1100C MEMORIAL AVE, SUITE 184,
THUNDER BAY, ONT P7B4A3

CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP

FULL MEMBERSHIP \$35.00-open only to licensed amateurs

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

TELEPHONE: () _____ POSTAL CODE _____

MAY WE PUBLISH THE PHONE NUMBER yes / no

MAY WE DELIVER HI-Q BY E-MAIL? yes / no

CALL(S) _____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP- immediate family residing at the same address holding licenses.
\$35.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional amateur.

NAMES AND CALLS

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP- \$15.00-open to persons enrolled full time in an education
facility, list School and program _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP-\$20.00-upon approval of the Board and open to:

1)Non holders of an amateur radio license.

2)Licensed amateurs living outside the immediate Thunder Bay area or are unable to attend regular meetings of the club.

If you feel you qualify for associate membership, please indicate why, on a separate sheet, to be used by the Board to consider your application.

Please mail or bring this form to the next meeting with your cash or cheque for membership fees.

Cheques should be made payable to Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.

Applications and cheques can also be dropped off at the above address.